COVERAGE NAME : PRECIPA

COVERAGE AREA: STATEWIDE

COVERAGE DESCRIPTION:

The 'PRECIPA' layer represents lines of equal rainfall (isohyets) based on long-term mean annual precipitation data compiled from USGS, California Department of Water Resources, and California Division of Mines map and information sources. Source maps are based primarily on U.S. Weather Service data for approximately 800 precipitation stations. In the Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay areas the USWS data has been supplemented by county and local agency precipitation data. The data was collected over a sixty year period (1900-1960). Minimum mapping unit is 1000+ acres. The isohyetal contour intervals are variable due to the degree of variation of annual precipitation with horizontal distance.

VITAL STATISTICS:

Datum:	NAD 83
Projection:	Albers
Units:	Meters
1st Std. Parallel:	34 00 00 (34.0 degrees N)
2nd Std. Parallel:	40 30 00 (40.5 degrees N)
Longitude of Origin:	-120 00 00 (120.0 degrees W)
Latitude of Origin:	00 00 00 (0.0 degrees)
False Easting (X shift):	0
False Northing (Y shift):	-4,000,000
Source:	Various source data compiled by USGS
Source Media:	Paper maps
Source Units:	
Source Scale:	1:1,000,000
Capture Method:	Digitized
Conversion Software:	ARC/Info Rev 6.1.1
Data Structure:	Vector
ARC/INFO Coverage Type:	Polygon
ARC/INFO Precision:	Double
ARC/INFO Tolerances:	default
Number of Features:	492 polygons
Layer Size:	1.3 MB
Data Updated:	January 1994

DATA DICTIONARY:

DATAFILE NAME: PRECIPA.PAT
RECORD LENGTH: 28

Non-standard polygon attribute fields:

COLUMN	ITEM NAME	WIDTH	OUTPUT	TYPE	N.DEC
25	PRECIP	4	12	F	1

NOTE: Items common to all POLYGON coverages: AREA, PERIMETER, ABASA# and ABASA-ID are not described here.

PRECIP : Mean annual precipitation

DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT:

The following are subjective comments regarding this data.

Data for the south Lahotan region was sparse due to a lack of precipitation stations, resulting in sketchy isohyets for that area. All maps used in the compilation of data were adjusted to a common scale of 1:1,000,000, resulting is some loss of precision. However, the inherent inaccuracies of an isohytal map for a mountainous region such as California are such that the resulting coverage is considered to be sufficiently precise for most uses.